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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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| COUNTRY | Ecuador | REPORT NO. | [REDACTED] |
| SUBJECT | Communism in Cuenca, Ecuador | DATE DISTR. | 22 October 1953 |
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1. The Secretary-general of the Communist Party in Cuenca is Jaime GALARZA, who is at present in Quito. Dr. Miguel HERMIDA, a physician, occasionally acts in GALARZA's place when the latter is absent. Other outstanding Communists in the area are Fausto SANCHEZ Valdivieso; Manuel LEON, a university student; and one TENESACA (fnu), a laborer, who has managed to establish a Communist cell with some 30 members who are not yet officially affiliated with the PCE.
2. There is a Communist cell of some 10 members of the student body of the Colegio Benigno Malo, led by Alberto ZEA. Francisco ESTRELLA and Hugo ORDONES, both of the Facultad de Filosofia y Letras of the University of Cuenca, and both on the editorial staff of the school newspaper La Escoba, are Communists.
3. Communist Party meetings are being held at least twice each week at Calle Juan Jaramillo No. 71.
4. One VILLAVICENCIO (fnu) is in charge of part of the distribution of Communist propaganda. He recently stated that during the first week of October he expects to receive additional material for distribution. Among this material will be copies of the magazine Union Sovietica. It is not known exactly to whom this material is sent, but Jaime GALARZA is known to furnish quantities of it to VILLAVICENCIO.¹

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1. [REDACTED] Comment. [REDACTED] described Carlos CUEVA Tamariz as the principal recipient and distributor of Communist propaganda in Cuenca. 25X1A

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